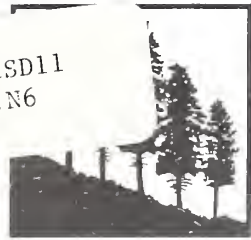


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Northern Region News



Issue 1

A Newsletter For Employees and Retirees

January 1, 1993

Gypsy Moths Continue to Spread

by Jill Cherpack, Public Affairs Specialist
National Gypsy Moth EIS Team
NE Area State and Private Forestry



he wide-spread destructiveness of the gypsy moth in the United States is causing the Forest Service and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to take a fresh look at the problem. The

moth has continued to spread both south and west from the generally infested area in the Northeast, and another variety—the Asian gypsy moth—is posing a threat to the forests and shade trees of the Pacific Northwest. In addition, three chemical insecticides formerly used to control the gypsy moth are no longer used in the Federal program, and new methods are emerging.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), provides the Federal agencies a way to address the concerns of the public and integrate technical and scientific expertise. Under NEPA, a preferred course of action must be identified and alternative strategies explored.

The environmental, economic, and social effects of both gypsy moth damage and proposed control measures must be assessed.

The USDA has assigned an interdisciplinary team to gather public issues and ideas and address them in the environmental impact statement. The team has an extensive network of coordinators across the country who will provide scientific advice and review, and who will gather public input in their regions. Jed Dewey, in Forest Pest Management, and Dale Dufour, in the Public Affairs Office, are coordinators for Region 1.

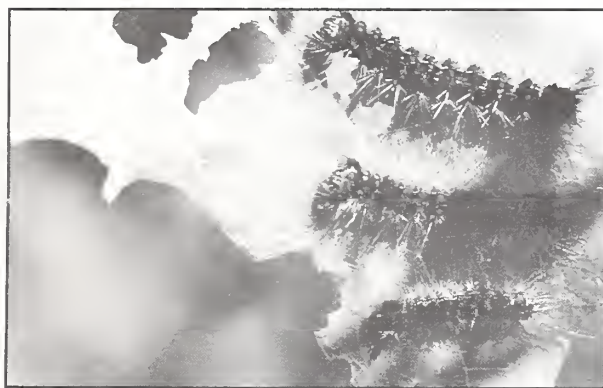
On November 12, the team published a notice in the Federal Register which describes the project in detail and invites public comment for a period of 120 days. About one year after the close

of the comment period, the draft environmental impact statement will be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and available for public review. Public review of the draft will then be analyzed and a final EIS will be prepared. Final approval of the new gypsy moth management program will then be made by the chief of the Forest Service and the administrator of APHIS, and will guide the actions of hundreds of people who will carry it out.

About 287 million acres of forest land, nationally, are susceptible to defoliation by the gypsy moth. Region 1 has not had major problems with the gypsy moth to date. However extensive detection surveys are conducted annually with APHIS and State agencies because the potential exists for it to become a problem.

Small, localized gypsy moth infestations were discovered in Coeur d'Alene and Sandpoint, Idaho in 1988. This led to a successful eradication project using a biological insecticide in 1989 and 1990. The 1992 survey detected no gypsy moths in North Dakota and only single moths in northern Idaho and Montana.

Because Asian gypsy moths were found last spring in the Pacific Northwest, the situation has become more urgent. This variety of gypsy moth can spread much faster than the European variety which infests the Northeast. APHIS, the Forest Service and the States of Washington and Oregon worked hard last spring, spraying thousands of acres to eradicate Asian gypsy moths. Tentative results are encouraging for no Asian gypsy moths were caught during the intensive detection trapping of 1992.



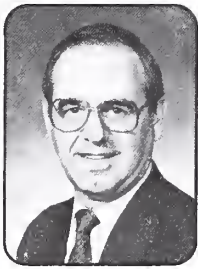
Three different stages of gypsy moth caterpillars feeding on an oak leaf

two Federal agencies are searching for new strategies to control unacceptable damage to forests and shade trees caused by this insect. They will prepare a new environmental impact statement (EIS) to shape the Federal gypsy moth program in the 1990's. This process will take two to three years to complete.

The gypsy moth is a notorious, leaf-eating pest. It defoliates forests and shade trees, leaving them weakened and susceptible to numerous other problems that can cause their death. The extensive and continuing loss of forest and shade trees presents a daunting array of ecological, economic, and social consequences.

The Department of Agriculture developed the program now in place in 1985. Since then, the gypsy moth situation has changed. The European gypsy





a note from Dave

It's not a bad idea at the beginning of every year to take some time to reflect on past accomplishments and past deficiencies, on where we want to go and the direction we need to take to get there. It's easy to get caught up in the details, in the daily tasks we all have to perform, but we shouldn't lose sight of our goals. We should not get discouraged. We're bound to encounter difficulties, but we fail only when we avoid dealing with the issue at hand. We've got to continue to look for answers.

What is absolutely necessary to our success is keeping a vision for the future of our agency and the lands we manage forefront in our minds—a vision we can all believe in. Above all it's important we feel as Forest Service employees that we can make a difference, that we don't become demoralized over temporary setbacks. Perseverance is not easy in these times of budget cutbacks but it does have huge rewards.

Perseverance has provided Region 1 with excellent returns in our efforts to develop management strategies to properly care for the land, to preserve its ability to support and maintain life in all its aspects and to produce suitable resources for people's use. We have devised an approach that recognizes what research has been showing us—that the forests and grasslands are highly complex worlds, where organisms and the landscape interact to form an environment that is interdependent, remarkably resilient in some respects but very fragile in others.

As those responsible for taking care of the national forests, we have come to realize that our actions have far reaching and long-term consequences. The effects of our decisions and practices are now shown to transcend the local and regional community to have national and international ramifications. Other factors considered in our formulation of a valid land management policy include an expanding population with different and changing values in their attitude and demands of the national forest system.

The result of examining the scientific, political and social responsibilities we must meet has been the development of the ecosystem management concept. It is the most significant policy shift I have witnessed in my career with the Forest Service. Ecosystem management gives us a way to manage for the long-term, to maintain ecosystem health while achieving a balanced supply of resources for people, including commodities extracted by environmentally acceptable methods.

We are concerned with a variety of outputs and they remain part of our mission. These outputs, using ecosystem management as a guide, will be at a level that will sustain the biological diversity of the environment and will be supported by the public. This methodology assures the long-term production of resources by supporting forest health. A land ethic based on sustainability is best for everything—the land and its resources and the life dependent on it.

An ecosystem encompasses the complex interaction between people, plants and animals and our environment. Having a holistic view of ecosystems means that everything is considered from the onset of formulation of Forest Plans—threatened and endangered species, recreation, old-growth forests, cultural resources, forest health, commodity production, and a host of other factors. It imposes a greater responsibility on us as employees and as managers. It demands that we work closer together as research scientists, biologists, foresters, archaeologists, engineers, sociologists, personnel specialists, budget analysts—whatever the myriad of skills we now have represented—to pool our knowledge and skills to make this concept work. We must have open discussion and a free exchange of ideas. We must value the diversity of backgrounds, opinions, and disciplines within our workforce. As I've said many times, the Forest Service has gone through many changes since it was founded over 85 years ago, and even since I began with the agency. It will continue to change because research and commitment to using the best technology, principles, and concepts available to us to do our job has been integral to our work since the creation of the Forest Reserves.

As we face the new year my hope is that we'll continue to be a dynamic agency, that we'll adapt to new ideas, to public concerns, to research that pertains to our mission. We must also continue to lead in conservation efforts, to stress wise and efficient use of our resources. We must listen to and involve the public, and at times we must have the courage to take the lead on important issues. There are occasions when we are faced with conflicting demands. Ecosystem management, with its emphasis on the long term and broad scale, will help us resolve many of these conflicts. It meets the acid test, which is to say it invests in the future.

Dave Jolly
Regional Forester

Revolution in the Woods

by Jim Hedges, Valuation Specialist, TCFPM, Regional Office

A revolution is taking place in the woods that will change forever timber management in the Northern Region. A harvesting system that originated in Scandinavia is firmly entrenched in this part of the country and has great potential to increase timber production,

while at the same time reduce negatives associated with conventional harvesting methods. This new system is known by several names, such as mechanized logging, clippers, log forwarder, or feller buncher. But its label has been recently standardized to "CTL" from cut-to-length. This system is based on two pieces of equipment, the harvester and the CTL for-



L to R - Forwarder and harvester, composing a CTL system

warder.

The heart of the entire system is the harvester head, a boom-mounted device attached to either a wheeled or tracked platform. This piece of equipment severs the tree close to the ground, de-limbs, bucks and sorts the logs, then leaves them in piles according to product. The operation reduces impact on the site by depositing the branches and tops in the machine's path, greatly reducing soil disturbance and compaction. During the bucking process, an on-board computer makes decisions on log length to maximize profit. The computer also records vital data, such as calculating log production.

The second half of the CTL system is the log forwarder, an off-road, self-loading log truck. It travels on the slash matt, picking up pre-bunched piles of logs left behind by the forwarder. The forwarder reduces erosion in five ways: 1) The logs are not dragged on the ground as with a skidder but transported free of the ground, with the weight distributed evenly on six to eight wheels. 2) It travels on the slash mat laid down by the harvester. The slash mat reduces soil compaction, acts as a filter to trap fine soil particles and reduces water velocity. 3) It can travel over stumps unlike a skidder which requires the stumps to be grubbed out, thereby increasing the amount of exposed mineral soil. 4) Because of its 8 to 15 ton capacity, the forwarder makes half the number of trips compared to a skidder, greatly reducing ground disturbance. 5) Because the forwarder can off-load directly onto log trucks, landings—large stockpile areas needed by conventional equipment—are reduced to a minimum, reducing ground disturbance. 6) It's designed to economically transport loads up to 2,500 feet, resulting in fewer roads. Fewer roads mean

less sediment ending up in streams, less disturbance to wildlife and fewer miles of road maintenance.

The CTL system also has an advantage over conventional equipment in its capacity to handle small logs. Conventional methods of cutting timber make use of sawyers to cut the logs to desired lengths. With this labor intensive method, it is not economically efficient to remove small diameter material from the woods. However with the CTL process, trees can be removed down to 2" in diameter, making maximum use of the tree.

Other advantages that the public will no doubt note is the lack of conspicuous skid trails, ruts, waterbar construction and fewer logging roads needed by the system. Because the shorter logs cut by the harvester are easier to maneuver around the woods, there is less damage to the remaining stands. This aspect of the CTL system makes commercial thinning feasible in stands as dense as 200 leave trees per acre.

The equipment also offers reduced hazard to personnel. In a typical conventional operation there are eight people working, five sawyers, two skidder operators and a log loader. The sawyers are in a very hazardous environment and the skidder operators must often dismount the machine and set and release chockers or log cables. In a CTL set up, the two operators work in a fully enclosed air-conditioned cab, which makes for a very safe environment and potentially lower workmen's compensation rates.

However, there is resistance to the coming change. Because a sale must be designed exclusively for CTL equipment, owners of conventional equipment are excluded from the bidding table. Their understandable objections will decline as conventional equipment is replaced by CTL equipment. This new system reduces labor by three fourths when compared to a conventional operation, raising concerns about increasing unemployment in a industry already suffering from record layoffs. It is hoped the reduced manpower required will be counteracted by increasing sawmill employment as more land is economically and environmentally accessible for harvesting.

This system is not an experimental, "some time in the future" concept. CTL has been operational in Europe for over 35 years. In this region its use dates back to 1972 when Bill Uolcka of St. Anthony, Idaho, used an earlier generation machine on the Gallatin National Forest. Industrial forest landowners in the region are also taking advantage of this technology, owning seven sets or compliments of CTL equipment.

Recently the Nez Perce awarded the Twentymile timber sale that required use of CTL equipment, the sixth such sale in the Region. Numerous CTL sales are presently in the planning phase. It's obvious we're in a period of drastic change that will result in a reduction in environmental impacts and a more stable log flow for the user.

For more information, contact Dick Artly, Nez Perce National Forest (208-983-1950); Joe Gorsh (406-329-3612) or Jim Hedges (406-329-3419) in the Regional Office.



a clarion call

by Chris Worth, Forester
Land and Financial Planning, Regional Office

"Scoping," "environmental consequences," "rationale for decision." These terms are the language and nuances of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). To many of us within the Forest Service, these terms evoke a range of feelings.

NEPA and its requirements are relatively simple. The basic questions that NEPA asks Federal agencies to consider and disclose are: 1) **WHY** is a project proposal necessary; and 2) **WHAT** are the environmental effects associated with the proposal? It is the answering of those questions that prompts environmental, social, and economic analyses, public meetings, resource specialists' reports, and documentation that presents this information: the Environmental Assessment (EA)

or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). And it is answering those questions of WHY, and WHAT, that generates much of our workload and the public and judicial scrutiny that closely accompanies our activities.

Our opinions assuredly vary on how NEPA has affected Forest Service decision-making, and, the procedural burdens it places upon land management agencies. But, in order to fully address those questions, and understand the current NEPA process, we must re-visit the era that spawned NEPA.

NEPA was conceived and born during the tumultuous years of the 1960's. It was a time when many Americans increasingly questioned the authority and decisions of both their elected officials, as well as all Government institutions. Citizen activism reached new levels as many fervently came to believe in the necessity of ordinary people "policing" Government agencies and actions (Blumm, 1990). And we had abundant reasons to raise questions. A military police action in an unknown corner of Southeast Asia escalated into the horror of My Lai. A Baptist preacher's vision of racial equality and brotherhood was overwhelmed by the hatred and riots of Detroit. An obscure Ohio river erupted into flame, gaining national notoriety; the product of a toxic melange of industrial sewage.

Within this frantic, turbulent, and per-

haps even frightening period, Congress would intermittently deliberate a national policy towards the environment. "The Resources and Conservation Act," introduced in 1959, would comprise an initial attempt, proposing to coordinate resource conservation on the basis of national goals and priorities. The debate on a comprehensive environmental policy would span the decade. In January 1969, Senator. Henry M. Jackson (D-WA) and Rep. John D. Dingell (D-MI) jointly introduced draft legislation that led the way to the passage of NEPA. The specific environmental catalysts that

"NEPA endures as our Nation's clarion call to stewardship of our land and its myriad, but finite resources."

proliferation of pesticides, off-shore oil spills, the pall of air pollution. However, legislators were especially concerned with the "loss" of public resources to Federally-sponsored or aided development and construction activities, which often occurred with little deference to the desires and aspirations of local citizens (Congressional Record, Vol.115, Part 14).

The 91st Congress crafted NEPA to: (1) challenge Executive-branch agencies to examine their motives, and demonstrate, IN WRITING, that they had taken environmental considerations into account; and (2) sanction public debate and participation in Federal decision-making, so that people's values would guide and help sharpen how public resources are to be used (Parenteau, 1990). These purposes are not clearly expressed in the flowery statements of NEPA's introduction declaring "a national policy which will encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment" (Sec. 2, 42 U.S.C. 4321). However, the legislative intent of NEPA, as evinced by the Senate and House debate at the time, is more pointed:

* to restore public confidence in the Federal Government's capacity to achieve important public purposes and objectives

and at the same time to maintain and enhance environmental quality; and

* to deal with the long-range implications of critical environmental problems of public concern (Congressional Record, Vol.115, Part 14, p.19010).

The noteworthy language in the legislative history are the emphases placed upon the concern regarding threats to the human environment and the affirmation of the public's role in helping to shape natural resource policy to address those threats.

The spirit and concerns of the 1960's infuses much of NEPA. NEPA embodies that great probing, that self-examination and questioning of ourselves and our principles which characterized the period. Like the Free Speech Movement at Berkeley and the campus uprisings, NEPA confronts us, makes us uncomfortable, and continually challenges our conventional thinking (Parenteau, 1990). And like those long ago marches at Selma and Birmingham, NEPA demands that our publics, no matter how divisive or contradictory their values and concerns; "will not be denied." NEPA became law in January 1970. In the years between 1970 and 1978, prior to regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), much of the substantive guidance on NEPA would be provided by the courts. The judiciary continues to play an active role in assuring that Federal agencies comply with Congressional intent, and administrative law (40 C.F.R. 1500-1508) regarding NEPA's application. NEPA endures as our Nation's clarion call to stewardship of our land and its myriad, but finite resources. And it beckons us to thoughtfully, and carefully, weigh the consequences—and challenges—of managing the public's assets.

(Editor's note - It was 22 years ago, on January 1 that NEPA became law. The article is one of a series of perspectives on laws that govern Forest Service activities which will be carried in the Northern Region News on the anniversary date of their passage. The opinions expressed are those of the author's.)

New Plant Discovered in Peatlands

by Steve Chadde, Natural Areas Ecologist
Regional Office

Wet, spongy areas known as peatlands are home to some of the rarest plant and animal species in the Northern Region. In fact, about 17 percent of the Region's more than 150 sensitive plant species are restricted to these rare habitats.

Peatlands consist of thick soils formed from organic materials such as grass leaves, sedge stems, and mosses. This "soil" acts as a sponge, creating conditions that limit the types

of plants able to grow under these wet, poorly drained conditions.

In the Northern Region, fens (peatlands dominated by herbaceous plants) and carrs (shrub-dominated peatlands) are rare because of the strict set of environmental factors needed for their formation—most of our peatlands develop on



Fen orchid, a new orchid for Montana, Swan River Research Natural Area, Flathead National Forest

a level bench fed by seeps and springs that rise at the base of a slope. Even rarer are conditions favorable to the formation of strings and flarks, small ridge and trough wrinkles that form in the peat. To date, only one well-developed example has been located on the Flathead National Forest.

This past summer, botanist Steve Shelly (RO Wildlife and Fisheries) and ecologist Steve Chadde (RO RAWE), began a study of peatlands in northwestern Montana. Working with Maria Mantas, Flathead National Forest botanist, they inventoried the flora and plant communities of 13 different peatlands on the Spotted Bear and Swan River Ranger Districts. One notable result of the surveys has been the discovery of an orchid not previously known from Montana - fen orchid (*Liparis loeselii*). Recent studies by the Montana Natural Heritage Program have also uncovered a number of new sites for the northern bog lemming, a small rodent of fen environments previously known from only two locations in the state.

For the coming year, the two hope to expand their study to the Kootenai National Forest and to coordinate their efforts with a similar study being conducted on the Idaho Panhandle National Forests. Steve Chadde is hopeful that their work will document the importance of peatlands and that conservation measures, such as establishing research natural areas and botanical areas, can be taken to ensure their protection. As he puts it, "peatlands occupy a tiny portion of our National Forest lands, but have an ecological significance far exceeding their small size."



Marilyn prior to racing the White Knob Challenge

Spotlight

Marilyn Mais

From: Twin Falls, Idaho

Profession: Hydrology Technician, Bitterroot National Forest

What my job REALLY is: About 7 months of the year I'm outside, doing such things as measuring how fast streams are flowing and how much water is in the streams at that point in time. I also take samples to measure how much sediment is suspended in the water and being rolled across the bottom of the stream—in other words, what sediment is eroding off the land from natural erosion or caused from management activities. The winter months are devoted to analyzing all the data.

Grand Adventure: When I graduated from college, I gave myself two years to play and be a seasonal Forest Service employee. After that, I had to get a real job! When those two years were drawing to a close, I started applying for teaching positions (few and far between in the Pacific Northwest). When the vacancy announcement for teaching jobs on Guam appeared in the placement letter, I figured that as long as I would have to live a long way from home—and my favorite place in the world—it might as well be exotic! When the job offer came, I knew that I had to take it or I would always wonder!

It was the longest 10 months of my life! But it was different. I taught 8th grade physical education in a public school on Guam, coached swimming, basketball, volleyball. I got to travel to other Pacific Islands, Korea, Japan, Bali (Indonesia), learned to scuba dive, was a minority-white that is(!), got my apartment broken into, met a lot of very nice people, did a lot of things that I would have never done or experienced if I had lived in Idaho or Montana.

Favorite place in the world: Stanley, Idaho because I like high desert, open spaces, big mountains and blue blue sky!

Hobbies: Mountain bicycling; racing mountain bikes and winning!; being a Girl Scout Leader; cross country, downhill and (trying to) telemark skiing; looking for a house to buy.

Dream vacation: Bicycle touring through Europe

Fantasy job: Owning and managing a successful, "money making" bed and breakfast/bicycle touring outfitting business.

Best all around day of 1992: Winning the White Knob Challenge, a bicycle race. Wasn't a Forest Service job day, but something where I'd put lots of time in over several years!

By December 1993, I hope...: Take and pass one of the math classes necessary to qualify for professional hydrologist!

New Director for Trapper Creek JCC

by Madelyn Kempf, Public Affairs Specialist
Bitterroot National Forest

Nancy Mjelde, current director of the Curlew Job Corps Center in the Colville National Forest in Washington, has accepted a reassignment to the position of director for the Trapper Creek Job Corps Center.

Mjelde (pronounced "mel-dee"), Mjelde began her Forest Service career in 1968 at the Eldorado National Forest in California. From there her varied career has taken her to the Shasta Trinity National Forest, also in California; the Kootenai National Forest in Montana; and the Idaho Panhandle National Forests, in 1980. From there she went to the Washington Office where she managed Hosted Programs and the Youth Conservation Corps until her appointment as director of Curlew Job Corps Center in 1989.

Mjelde is proud of the Curlew Job Corps Center's accomplishments during her tenure as director. "We implemented a social skills training, an alcohol and other drugs of abuse program, a new orientation program and emphasized work opportunities throughout the community."

Mjelde also has a breadth of experience as a volunteer. Since 1980, she has served on the advisory board for the Displaced Homemakers Program at North Idaho College; the



Nancy Mjelde

Governor's Council on Domestic Violence as chair and vice chair; the Idaho Network to Stop Violence Against Women; Volunteer Safe House for Battered Women and Children; Rape and Domestic Violence Crisis Intervention volunteer; and member of Board of Director's, Women's Center, Inc. In addition, Mjelde has served as treasurer for Business and Professional Women and the National Organization for Women.

Mjelde's volunteer efforts have earned her the title of Business and Professional Women's "Women of Progress" award for the State of Idaho; Beta Sigma Phi Woman of the Year, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; and the USDA Women's Action Task Force Award in 1987.

Mjelde is looking forward to her January 24, 1993 report date to the Trapper Creek Job Corps Center. The move will put her closer to her son John Barnes, his wife and three children who live in Libby, Montana.

"Being a Center Director is a challenge," stressed Mjelde. "Most people get a general idea of the 'crisis a minute' atmosphere at the center when they compare the energy necessary to be an good parent to having 200 energetic youth living, working, learning and playing together."

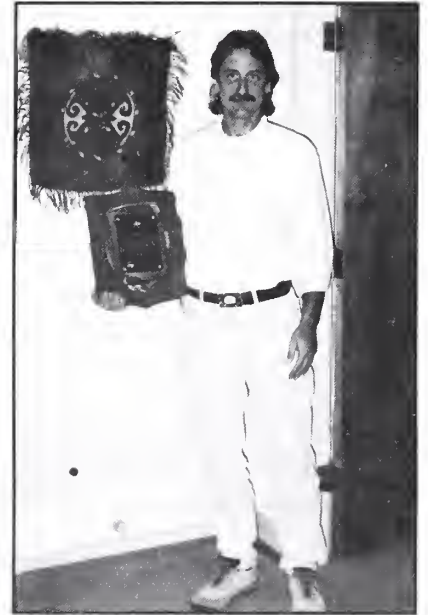
Andy Kulla Wins Award

by Cheryl Vanderburg, Public Affairs Trainee
Lolo National Forest

Andy Kulla, an interdisciplinary forester at the Missoula Ranger District, received the Regional Forester's Honor Award for Environmental and Natural Resource Protection. His successes in the Lolo's riparian grazing program and noxious weed program demonstrate "the high energy, initiative, creativity and high quality work" he brings to his job.

Kulla has also made outstanding contributions to wilderness management, particularly with reference to the Rattlesnake National Recreation Area and Wilderness.

Mountain biking and the rapidly growing use of forest trails also keep Kulla busy. He started and now leads an organization of mountain bike enthusiasts called LIMB (Low Impact Mountain Bicyclists of Missoula) dedicated to promoting mountain bicycling etiquette and education.



Andy Kulla

Newsletter Guidelines

The Northern Region News is published by the Northern Region Public Affairs Office for employees and retirees. The following are guidelines for submitting stories:

- Articles should feature Forest Service employees and retirees involved in Forest Service activities and projects.

- Articles must be concise and timely. All articles are subject to editing, and may not be used if outdated, inappropriate, or if space does not permit.

- Photos should be black and white, glossy prints if possible.

- Send articles to G. Weisgerber: R01A (Data General) or Gloria Weisgerber, Northern Region Public Affairs Office, P.O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807. The public affairs officer on your Forest may want to preview articles before they are sent. If so, please follow that process.

Quarry Gets Facelift

by Dellora Gauger, Public Information Assistant
Fortine Ranger District, Kootenai National Forest

Picture the beautiful forest. A house sits surrounded by the beautiful forest and has a quiet winding road leading to the house. Then picture a big ugly gravel pit by the quiet winding road leading to the house, surrounded by the beautiful forest! Anything wrong with the picture?

Well, Mark Johnson and Vikki Woodruff, residents of the Eureka area, thought so. They live in the house by the gravel pit. Not only was it by their driveway, but it was on national forest

land adjacent to a main district road. They called Ron Williams, resource assistant at the Fortine District office, to determine when restoration of the pit would take place. They learned there were plans to complete the work but there weren't funds to address the problem in the near future.



Gravel pit before restoration

To expedite the process, Mark and Vikki volunteered their time and money to get the pit on the road to recovery. They hired a small dozer to reslope a portion of the pit, hauled in top soil, woody debris and mulch to get a good surface established, planted shrubs, trees and grass seed and fertilized and placed rock in key areas, all at their own expense. Mark's experience in the landscaping business helped them lay-out the materials to get the greatest benefit.

Ron Williams, said "Mark and Vikki are two of the many volunteers we have in the area. They see something that needs doing and come up with creative solutions to get it done. We are fortunate to have folks like them around. They did an excellent job of restoring the site to a productive and visually pleasing condition."



L to R - Vikki Woodruff and Mark Johnson receive a certificate of appreciation from resource assistant Ron Williams of Fortine Ranger District.

In Memoriam

Emmett H. "Smokey" Cunningham, 89, died October 29 at Sturgis, South Dakota. He worked 36 years for the Forest Service, 30 of them (1936-66) as alternate ranger at the old Sioux District at Camp Crook, South Dakota, Custer National Forest.

Born in 1903 in Red Lodge, Montana, Cunningham was widely known throughout the forest, assisting wherever he was needed—CCC camps, fires, road management, telephone lines, horse buyer, explosives expert, improvement manager, to name a few. He was considered an institution by Custer staff and will be greatly missed.

Terry Ellsworth, 51, died November 8 at her home in Kodiak, Alaska. Born in Sandpoint, Idaho, she worked previously as a geologist for the Forest Service in Coeur d'Alene.

Leland "Lee" Landman died December 2 following surgery for an aneurysm. Born in 1919 in Vermont, Landman began working for the Forest Service in 1958 as forest engineer for the Kaniksu National Forest at Sandpoint, Idaho. In 1966 he transferred to the Region 1 Regional Office where he worked as assistant regional engineer until his retirement in 1980.

Oliver Marsing, 76, of Connor, died December 6 in Hamilton. Born in Utah, he moved to Salmon, Idaho where he worked as a packer intermittently for the Forest Service.

Tips to LIVE By

Each year 6,000 people suffer eye and face injuries from attempts to jump-start a car. To avoid an accident, please follow these safety precautions.

1. Cover the dead battery with a floor mat or some sort of non-flammable covering. The dead battery can explode in your face.
2. Put out all cigarettes and flames. A spark can ignite hydrogen gas from battery. Wear goggles.
3. Make sure cars don't touch. Set parking brakes. Put automatic shift in Park or manual to Neutral.
4. Turn ignition off.
5. Add battery water, if needed. Replace caps, cover with damp cloth. Don't jump-start if fluid is frozen.
6. Do not jump start unless car batteries are same voltage.
(American cars are either 12-volt or 6-volt.)
7. Clamp one jumper cable to positive (+) pole of dead battery. Then clamp cable's other end to positive (+) pole of good battery.
8. At good battery, clamp second cable to negative (-) pole. Then clamp cable's other end to dead car's engine block on side away from battery.
9. Start car with good battery—then start the disabled car.
10. Remove cable from engine block and other car's negative pole. Then remove cable from positive poles.

Native American Culture in the Bitterroot

by Cass Cairns,
Information Assistant
Bitterroot National Forest

Until the end of the 19th century, the Bitterroot Valley was primarily the home of the Salish tribe. The employees of the Bitterroot National Forest were exposed to a little of that history this past November during American Indian Heritage Month. The activities were organized by Bitterroot National Forest Cultural Committee representative Kerry McMenus, Forest Archaeologist Joy Bolton and Social Services Assistant Steve Cole of Trapper Creek Job Corps.

On Thursday, November 12, a large crowd turned out to listen to Flathead Culture committee members Clarence Woodcock, Germaine Dumontier, Tery Tanner, Harriet Whitworth and Felecite MacDonald. They spoke about the history of the Flathead Salish Indians in the Bitterroot, their culture today, and their continuing use and interest in the Bitterroot. Many people lingered after the presentation to ask questions and share comments.

The following day Salish-Kootenai College assistant vice-president Corwin "Corky" Clairmont set up a Native American art display in the lobby of the Bitterroot National Forest Supervisor's office. About 20 pieces were displayed which included paintings, an Indian dress, dolls, sculptures and a head dress.

On Saturday, November 14, special activities were planned for the students and staff of the Trapper Creek Job Corps as well as all Forest employees and their families. Steve Cole, a Native American himself of the Lakota Sioux, made arrangements to have an elder from the Flathead Salish Tribal Council, Louis Adam, speak to the students and staff. Adams talked about the Salish's



Top - Native American sweatlodge erected near Trapper Creek JCC. Above - Display of Native American clothing and artwork at Bitterroot SO

past in the Bitterroot, their values and traditions.

Prior to Adams' talk, Cole prepared the way by facing in four directions, stopping each time to blow a Sundance eagle bone whistle. He explained afterwards that the whistle is used to call in the spirit of the eagle that takes the prayers to the Creator. This is a Native American tradition to pray to the Creator prior to a ceremony or, in this case, prior to a presentation so that the right words would be spoken and all would go well.

Other activities at the center included the demonstration of beading, displayed Indian artwork and traditional clothing. The day ended with an opportunity to participate in a cleansing of the spirit and body in a sweatlodge that was set up at a site away from the center. Two sessions were scheduled, one for the young women and later for the young men.

Through these activities, many gained a better understanding of the Native American culture so important to this area.



Primitive Skills Trainings at Ninemile

by Greg Munther, District Ranger
Ninemile Ranger District

In 1993 the Ninemile Wildlands Training Center (NWTC) begins its fifth year of providing quality "hands-on" primitive skills training. In the past four years we have offered training opportunities in recreation and wilderness management, use and care of primitive tools, use and care of saddle and pack stock, trail maintenance and planning, and preservation and maintenance of historic structures. This year our training opportunities are similar in scope.

WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDER COURSE - 80-hour course taught by Wilderness Medicine Institute instructors. Provides knowledge needed to deal with medical emergencies in remote settings. March 13-22. \$320.

OUTFITTER/GUIDE ADMINISTRATION - taught by Regional Office personnel. Will be used as model for national-level training course. March 22-24. \$100.

TRAIL PLOW AND GRADER SESSION - Will complete an actual trail reconstruction project during training session. May 3-7. \$250

CROSSCUT SAW MAINTENANCE - taught by Warren Miller, co-author with MTDC of "Crosscut Saw Manual," used by the Forest Service. Session #1: May 3-7. Session #2: May 10-14. \$300.

HORSEMANSHIP FOR MANAGERS - developed to provide basic horsemanship instruction to the casual or infrequent user. May 17-19. \$150.

MINIMUM IMPACT CAMPING/CAMPING IN BEAR COUNTRY - combines "Leave No Trace" program with hands-on stock handling techniques and equipment, and also incorporates bear country camping techniques. May 19-21. \$150.

UNDERSTANDING LLAMAS - hands-on training to assist in deciding if llamas would be efficient tool in helping manage your lands. May 24-26. \$100.

HISTORIC BUILDING PRESERVATION AND MAINTENANCE - taught by R-I Historic Building Preservation Team leader Bernie Weisgerber. Two courses: (1) wood shingle roof replacement, including material selection, tear off and preparation, and installation of new shingles (2) log cabin lookout restoration project, including log, roof, and window replacement as well as logistical problems associated with remote sites. TBA. 8 one-week sessions planned for both courses. \$100.

NATIONAL WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT FOR LINE OFFICERS - special announcement currently being circulated.

HORSEMANSHIP AND PACKING CLINIC - taught at Ninemile since 1980. June 14-18. \$250.

We are changing our nomination process this year in order to streamline the accounting. To be nominated to any of our courses you will need to send our office an In-Service Authorization (form 6500-46) by March 1, 1993 for the amount of tuition. Send the 6500-46 to H.Blalock:ROIF16D04A. Please forward your nomination by March 1, 1993. If you have any questions please call Holly Blalock at (406) 626-5201 or FTS 700-326-5201.

It Was NO CONTEST!



from the "National Forest Service
Museum Newsletter"

When the Forest Service was created in 1905 from its predecessor, the Bureau of Forestry, Forest Service Chief Gifford Pinchot felt the need for a new and different symbol to replace the circular nicked badge previously used by Forest Reserve officers. This new symbol was to be used as the new badge and also on publications, signs, vehicles, etc. as a distinctive symbol of the new authority.

A servicewide design contest was held. However in the opinion of the three-man judging committee of Pinchot, Overton Price and E. T. Allen, not one single submission was acceptable. As they were about to start a new design contest, Allen, the advocate of the shield shape, used the Union Pacific Railroad timetable which happened to be on his desk at the time, to trace out the UPRR shield shape as an example of what he suggested as one of the new design criteria. He added a prominent "US" in the center of the shield outline. W.C. Hodge, who was an onlooker but not one of the contest judges, sketched a traditional coniferous tree on cigarette paper and placed it between the letters. Synergy kicked in and someone wrote Forest Service above and the Department of Agriculture below. In three minutes the design contest was all over!

Retirees Association - WE WANT YOU!

by Chuck Teague, Membership Chairman
NRMRA

About six years ago, a group of Forest Service retirees living in the local area established a retiree group to help maintain contact with each other and to keep track of what the Forest Service was doing.

There are now over 200 members. Membership benefits include a periodic newsletter, an annual luncheon and election, an annual meeting with the Regional Forester, a field trip, and a pot luck picnic. We are open to do more or different things as the members wish. We hope you will write and tell us what you are doing for the newsletter and join our ranks by sending \$10 for membership in 1993 or \$50 for a life membership to: Northern Rocky Mountain Retirees Association, P. O. Box 20186, Missoula, MT 59801.

Personnel Update

BEAVERHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS AND PROMOTIONS

BEAN-DOCHNAHL, JANET, IAA coordinator, Madison RD, Quality Step Increase
 BLACKWELL, REX, engineering staff officer, SO, cash award
 BOWEY, CHUCK, natural resource specialist, Sheridan RD, cash award
 BOWEY, JAN, range conservationist, Sheridan RD, cash award
 CHRISTENSEN, JIM, range technician, Dillon RD, cash award
 DALLAS, DAN, supervisory range conservationist, Sheridan RD, Quality Step Increase
 GREENE, SCOTT, forestry technician, Sheridan RD, quality step increase
 HALL, ART, range technician, Wise River RD, cash award
 HOEM, CAROLYN, resource assistant, SO, quality step increase
 JOHNSON, DEBORAH, geologist, Sheridan RD, cash award
 JOHNSON, SHARON, mail & file clerk, SO, cash award
 KRUEZ, DARRELL, forester, Wisdom RD, cash award from Ochoco NF for detail
 KYLES, AL, fire management officer/forester, Madison RD, cash award
 McLUSKIE, CLIFF, sale administrator, Madison RD, Quality Step Increase
 PETRONI, MARK, district ranger, Madison RD, cash award
 RAGAIN, DALE, resource assistant, Madison RD, cash award
 SCHOTT, RON, supervisory range conservationist, Madison RD, Quality Step Increase
 STEWARD, DARYL, forestry technician, Madison RD, Quality Step Increase
 SVOBODA, DAN, soil scientist, SO, cash award
 WING, DAVE, law enforcement officer, SO, cash award

REASSIGNMENTS

WOODS, TRISH, computer assistant, SO, forestry technician (assistant dispatcher)

BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

FLOCH, RICK, forester, Darby RD, cash award
 McKEE, BOB, forestry technician, Darby RD, cash award
 PLATT, PEG, support services specialist, Darby RD, cash award
 TERRILL Jr., BILL, forester, Darby RD, cash award
 WANDLER, KAREN, resource assistant, SO, promotion, resource specialist

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

LOCKMAN, DAVID, wildlife biologist, SO, reassignment, fishery biologist
 MJELDE, NANCY, program manager, R-6, Colville NF, Curlew CCC, reassignment, Trapper Creek CCC

CLEARWATER NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

COLE, GARY, forestry technician, Pierce RD, cash award
 DOBSON, EDWARD, forestry technician, Pierce RD, cash award
 GRUBB, STEPHANIE, forestry technician, North Fork RD, promotion/transfer, Nezperce NF
 LILLY, LINDA, forester, Pierce RD, temporary promotion
 MARTINEK, BRUCE, forester, North Fork RD, temporary promotion
 MILLER, CHARLES, forestry technician, Pierce RD, cash award
 PINKHAM, ALLEN, tribal government liaison, SO, promotion
 STEADMAN, CLAIR, maintenance worker, Pierce RD, cash award

CUSTER NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

MILLETT, DEAN R., promotion, forester, Ashland RD
 BELL, PAMELA J., cash award, purchasing agent, SO
 COLE, VICKY L., cash award, forestry technician, SO
 NEWELL, SUSAN W., cash award, realty specialist, SO
 PETERS, ANN E., promotion, accounting technician, SO
 VISCONTY, GREG, cash award, geologist, SO
 WEISHOFF, SUZANNE H., cash award, mail & file clerk, SO

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

SASSE, DONALD, wildlife biologist, Lewis & Clark NF, reassignment
 WATKINS, MICHAEL, forestry technician, Nezperce NF, reassignment

FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

DAUBER, DWIGHT, supervisory forestry technician, Hungry Horse RD, cash award
 HILLARD, LINDA, resource accounting technician, Tally Lake RD, cash award
 HYDE, KATHY, hydrologic technician, Tally Lake RD, cash award
 JACOBS, AMY, biological technician, Tally Lake RD, cash & merit awards
 JONES, DENNIS, information assistant, public affairs, SO, career promotion
 KEIBLER, BOB, forester, Glacier View RD, cash award
 ROOS, DOREEN, information receptionist, Tally Lake RD, cash award
 ROBERTS, WARREN, forestry technician, promotion, resource coordination, SO
 STURGIS, LOIS, computer assistant, Tally Lake RD, cash award
 ZIKA, LEAH, resource clerk, Tally Lake RD, cash award

GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

BOWMAN, JEANNIE, forestry technician, promotion, Bozeman RD
 BREEDLOVE, BILL, fire management officer, cash award, SO
 HANCOCK, PATT, personnel clerk, promotion, SO
 KRATVILLE, STEVE, resource assistant, QSI, Livingston RD
 METZGER, SHERRY, computer clerk, QSI, Bozeman RD
 ONDOV, RACHEL, biological technician, promotion, biological science technician (wildlife), Livingston RD

IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FORESTS

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

AITKEN, REX, cash award, Fernan RD
 ANDERSEN, DELORES, office automation clerk, promotion, resource clerk, SO
 ARNESON, KERRY, cash award, Fernan RD
 BEHREND, ELIZABETH, promotion, financial clerk, St. Maries RD
 BONNEAU, ROGER, cash award, Priest Lake RD
 BRIGGS, RONALD, quality step increase, SO
 BRO, MARGARET, promotion, computer specialist, SO
 BROWN, DAVID, cash award, Fernan RD
 BROWN, RICHARD, cash award, Bonners Ferry RD
 CARNEY, JAMES, cash award, Fernan RD
 COOPER, MARCELLA, cash award, Priest Lake RD
 COSOLITO, JOHN, cash award, Bonners Ferry RD
 DEVORE, RISA, cash award, Bonners Ferry RD
 DORRELL, JACK, cash award, Fernan RD
 DOUGHERTY, WENDY, promotion, forestry technician, St. Maries RD
 GALLEGOS, DEBRA, promotion, personnel management specialist, SO
 GARVEY, DAWNELLE, biological science technician, promotion, biological aid, Coeur d'Alene Nursery
 GIBBS, PAUL, cash award, Fernan RD
 GIOVANELLI, DANIELA, cash award, Fernan RD
 HART, PATRICIA, cash award, Bonners Ferry RD
 HATFIELD, DAWN, cash award, Fernan RD
 HOLLANDER, MARSHA, student trainee (forestry), promotion, forester, Sandpoint RD
 HOWLETT, GERALDINE, cash award, Bonners Ferry RD
 JENNESKENS, PAUL, cash award, Priest Lake RD
 KIMBALL, SHELLEY, promotion, biological science technician, Coeur d'Alene Nursery
 KINCHELOE, JULIE, cash award, Fernan RD
 KLARICH, ROBERT, cash award, Bonners Ferry RD
 LIONBERGER, SHERRIE, cash award, Fernan RD
 LOWMAN, PHILLIP, cash award, Bonners Ferry RD
 MAGERS, DAVID, cash award, Priest Lake RD
 MELTON, GAIL, cash award, Fernan RD
 MALDONADO, ALICIA, promotion, computer specialist, SO
 MERRITT, MARIDEL, cash award, Bonners Ferry RD
 MISCIAGNA, DANIEL, cash award, Bonners Ferry RD
 NELSON, RONALD, promotion, supervisory forestry technician, Sandpoint RD
 SHEPHERD, LARRY, quality step increase, SO
 STEERMAN, ROGER, supervisory forestry technician, promotion, forestry technician, Priest Lake RD
 SUMNER, MARTHA, biological technician (plants), biological science technician, Coeur d'Alene Nursery
 TRUJILLO, JUDY, promotion, forestry technician, Avery RD
 WALTZ, SUSAN, biological science technician, promotion, biological aid, Coeur d'Alene Nursery

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

BALL, SANDRA, purchasing agent, reassignment, office auto clerk, Sandpoint RD
 BENNER, ELISA, secretary, reassignment, resource clerk, SO
 COLLOTZI, ALBERT, Priest Lake RD, forester (administrative), reassignment, interdisciplinary, SO
 GREEN, ARLENE, computer program analyst, reassignment, SO
 HANSEN, CLAIRE, Sandpoint RD, reassignment, civil engineering technician, Bonners Ferry RD
 KAYNE, BOBBIE, Wallace RD, support purchasing agent, SO
 LAWS, MARY, Kootenai NF, resource forester, reassignment, forester, St. Maries RD
 ROBBINS, ROBERT, reassignment, civil engineering technician, St. Maries RD
 SCHAUER, WILLIAM, Wallace RD, reassignment, forest technician, St. Maries RD

RESIGNATIONS

SCOTT, RONALD, resignation, forestry technician, Fernan RD

Personnel Update

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

ANDERSON, MICHELLE, forestry technician, Three Rivers RD, promotion
 BAIN, JANE, personnel management specialist, SO, cash award
 BILLS, MICHAEL, contract specialist, SO, cash award
 BLOMQUIST, JODIE, forestry technician, Three Rivers
 BRAUN, SHEILA, forester, Rexford RD, cash award
 CHURCH, JOHN, forestry technician, Three Rivers RD, _
 COHENOUR, SHARREN, resource clerk, SO, cash award
 DILLON, ZANDRA, contract specialist, SO, cash award
 EATON, WENDY, shared services supervisor, Rexford RD, cash award
 FANSLER, MARY, resource clerk, SO, cash award
 HVIZDAK, RONALD, forestry technician, Rexford RD, cash award
 IBISON, KATIE, personnel officer, SO, cash award
 JUSTUS, DOROTHY, resource clerk, SO, cash award
 MELLEM, JANE, supervisory resource specialist, SO, cash award
 MYERS, JACK, civil engineering technician, SO, cash award
 NELSON, NEIL, forestry technician, Rexford RD, cash award
 NESBITT, DAVID, forester, Fortine RD, QSI
 NORBERG, NANCY, supervisory resource specialist, SO, cash award
 PLUID, JACK, maintenance worker, Rexford RD, cash award
 POTTER, PATRICIA, resource assistant, SO, cash award
 REBO, SANDY, computer assistant, SO, cash award
 ROBERTSON, JEANNE, contract specialist, SO, cash award
 TAYLOR, PEGGY, resource assistant, SO, cash award
 TIMMONS, BECKY, forest archeologist, SO, QSI

NEW EMPLOYEES

BURKE, TONEE, career conditional appointment, resource clerk, Fortine RD

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

BREDESON, GLENN, wildlife biologist, Idaho Panhandle NF,
 reassignment, computer specialist, SO
 HOLMAN, MICHELE, forester, Idaho Panhandle NF, reassignment, Libby RD
 LAWS, MARY, forester, Three Rivers RD, reassignment, Idaho Panhandle NF

LEWIS & CLARK NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTION

ALLISON, GARY, QSI, SO
 ARMSTRONG, JAMES, spot award, Kings Hill RD
 DECKER, MONTANA, cash award, SO
 DENNIS, CLAIRE, spot award, SO
 FEARS, DALE, spot award, SO
 GODTEL, DONALD, QSI, SO
 JOHNSON, LYNN, spot award, SO
 WHITE, SYDNEY, cash award, SO
 WOODS, MARILYN, spot award, SO

LOLO NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

AMSTER, JULIE, forestry tech, Ninemile RD, safety award
 APPEGATE, VICTOR J., forester, SO, cash award
 BEARCAT, BRANT, forestry technician, Ninemile RD, safety award
 BOLLER, AUDREY M., procurement assistant, SO, QSI
 BOHANNAN, CONNIE, supervisory contract specialist, SO,
 Regional Office Group Award
 BROWN, KEVIN, supervisory forestry technician, SO, 25-year service award
 BURTON, JACK, personnel officer, SO, 25-year Service Award
 CAVILL, RICK, supervisory forestry tech, Plains RD, Vernon Valach
 Memorial Award for Outstanding Technician in 1992
 CHRISTOPHER, ROGER, forestry technician, Ninemile RD, safety award
 DALEY, DIANNE, forester, Ninemile RD, promotion, Assistant District
 Ranger, Region 9
 DUNLOP, JON, supervisory civil engineer, SO, 25-year service award
 DUPUIS, VIC, forester, Missoula RD, 20-year service award,
 ELMSTROM, KEVIN, lead forestry technician, Ninemile RD, safety award
 ELLIOTT, LORI, forestry technician, Ninemile RD, safety award
 HAGER, STEIG, forestry technician, Ninemile RD, safety award
 HILLIS, MIKE, wildlife biologist, SO, cash award
 KICKING WOMAN, KEVIN, forestry aid, Ninemile RD, safety award
 KRAMER, RICHARD, fish biologist, SO, cash award
 KREIS, LAURIE, office automation clerk, Ninemile
 LINJALA, ED, forester, SO, cash award
 LUMPRY, DUANE, supervisory forestry technician, Missoula RD, QSI
 MAGNUSON, LEAF, information receptionist, Missoula RD, QSI

MARTIN, CHERYL, forestry technician, Superior RD, QSI
 MOLES, DENIS, forestry technician, Ninemile RD, safety award
 NAGY, ROCHELLE A., forestry technician, Ninemile RD, safety award
 SHEPARD, BARBARA, forestry aid, Ninemile RD, safety award
 STOCK, KEVIN, forestry technician, Ninemile RD, safety award
 TOWER, DOUGLAS, duplicating equipment operator, SO,
 25-year service award

WAGNER, BRIAN L., forestry technician, SO, cash award
 WHITEMAN, BARB, forestry technician, Ninemile RD, safety award
 WHITLATCH, PATRICIA, support services supervisor, Ninemile RD,
 10-year service award

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

HANSON, KATE, public affairs specialist, Missoula RD, reassignment,
 outdoor recreation planner, National Park Service, Maine

REGIONAL OFFICE

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

BELL, CAROL, student trainee (biological science), TCFPM,
 Special Act/Service Award
 GILLIGAN, CARMA, biological science technician, promotion, TCFPM
 JOHNSON, GARY, forester, L&M, promotion (from Lolo)
 KAY, MARTHA, lead office automation assistant, TCFPM,
 temporary promotion
 MAIER, DAN, lead civil engineering technician, ENG, cash award
 PATTERSON, DONALD, land surveyor, Eng, cash award
 VAN NICE, DONALD, cartographic technician, ENG, cash award

RESIGNATION

STALLWORTH, LESLIE, student trainee (computer science), MS

Retirement News

Ray Kiebler, 60, retired in October after 38 years of Federal service. Kiebler was special projects forester for the Flathead National Forest and forest yew program coordinator for the 1992 harvest.

Of his 24 years with the Forest Service, Kiebler said firefighting is probably the passion of his career. "It's a challenge that is unsurpassed," he stated.

David Wing, law enforcement officer for the Beaverhead National Forest in Dillon, retired December 14 after 24 years with the Forest Service. Wing began his work in law enforcement in 1976 when he transferred to the Beaverhead National Forest's Madison Ranger District. He was one of the original officers in the Forest Service's law enforcement program. He cites his involvement in the search for the fugitive "mountain men," Don and Dan Nichols, and the 1990 Earth First Rendezvous as two of the most memorable moments in his distinguished career.

Other Retirements

LYNN CARD, civil engineering technician, Clearwater NF
 CHARLES DAVIS, maintenance worker, Beaverhead NF
 DAN DAVIS, forestry technician, Custer NF, Medora RD
 FERNANDO ESPINOSA, Jr., fisheries biologist, Clearwater NF, SO
 ALVINA KRAMLICH, financial assistant, Lewis & Clark NF
 GEORGE LEIGTON, supervisory forester, Lolo NF
 MARTIN A. PLUTT, civil engineering technician, Beaverhead NF
 RICHARD SHERMAN, retirement, supervisory forestry technician,
 Coeur d'Alene Nursery
 VIC STANDA, District Ranger, Lewis & Clark NF, Kings Hill RD
 DOROTHY TABERNA, resource clerk, Lolo NF
 JULIE TITUS, support services supervisor, Fernan RD
 DAVID A. WING, law enforcement officer, Beaverhead NF

'Tis the Season

by Cass Cairns, Information Assistant
Bitterroot National Forest

The choir from the Trapper Creek Job Corps Center of the Bitterroot National Forest is responsible for lifting many spirits in Forest Service offices and in local hospitals and senior facilities. For three days they caroled from Missoula to Sula.

The choir started their activities December 14 by performing in the Darby "Clubhouse" Community Concert. Two days later they delighted audiences at the Regional Office and the Village Health Care Center in Missoula.

From Missoula they traveled to the Stevensville Ranger Station and the North Valley Nursing Home in Stevensville. On the following day they caroled the West Fork Ranger Station and the Sula Ranger Station. From there they entertained the employees at the Darby Ranger Station during their family meeting.

Their tour continued to the Bitterroot National Forest Supervisor's Office, Discovery Care Center, Valley View Nursing Home and ended at the Ravalli County Sheriff's Office in Hamilton.

The choir, coordinated by center recreation specialist Jim Fuchs and directed by contract worker Lynn Hamilton, consists



Trapper Creek JCC Choir shown in the lobby of the Regional Office.

of 14 students. They include: Alethea Standing Rock, Leroy Chavez, Louis Siefford, Melinda Brooks, Aca Potts, Darren Lewis, Ryan Keltch, Janet Smith, Tim Homstad, Calvin Spotted Eagle, Fred Van Maanen, Noah O'Brian, Phil Hurkes, and Martha Roach.

Fuchs commented that they had a great time, especially at the nursing homes where a few tears of joy were shed by both students and the elderly as all shared in the true meaning and spirit of Christmas.

The Northern Region News

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